**UPR 30, May 7, 2018**

**Recommendations by Canada for Turkmenistan’s UPR**

Thank you, Mr. President.

Canada thanks Turkmenistan for its presentation and encourages it to strengthen protections for civil society and women, and to combat enforced disappearances.

Canada recommends that Turkmenistan:

1. End the practice of enforced disappearances; ensuring that, following prompt, thorough and impartial investigation, perpetrators of these enforced disappearances are brought to justice, and providing effective remedies to victims and their families, including reparations.
2. Investigate promptly, thoroughly and impartially all allegations of arbitrary detention, torture, and ill-treatment, and - to this end - establish an independent, accessible and effective complaints mechanism for all places of detention.
3. Revise laws and policies to ensure an enabling environment for human rights defenders, an independent media, and a robust civil society.
4. Adopt legislation specifically criminalizing violence against women, ensure thorough investigations, and provide appropriate training to the police, the judiciary and other relevant stakeholders on how to address such cases.

Canada remains concerned with the difficulty faced by civil society in operating effectively in Turkmenistan due to legal restrictions.

Thank you.